

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 SCS-03 SCA-01 CPR-01 IO-13 ACDA-07

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P R 101439Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5763

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 9395

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: OGEN, GE, TU, US

SUBJECT: TURKISH THINKING ON CONSULAR CONVENTION WITH GDR

REF: (A) STATE 299668 (NOTAL), (B) ANKARA 8599

1. APPRECIATE RECEIVING INFO IN REF A CONCERNING U.S./GDR
CONSULAR CONVENTION NEGOTIATIONS. EMBOFF CALLED ON MFA
EASTERN DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR ASENA DEC. 10 TO PROVIDE THIS
INFO IN RESPONSE TO HIS EARLIER REQUEST (REF B). ASENA
WAS EXTREMELY GRATEFUL FOR THIS COOPERATION.

2. ASENA SAID THAT HE WOULD BE LEAVING FOR EAST BERLIN DEC. 13
TO ACCOMPANY MFA SEC GEN ELEKDAG FOR TALKS WITH GDR
COUNTERPARTS. THE GDR HAS RECENTLY SPECIFICALLY ASKED
TURKEY TO ENTER NEGOTIATIONS FOR A CONSULAR CONVENTION AND HAS
PROVIDED THE MFA EXAMPLES OF SUCH CONVENTIONS SIGNED WITH TWO
OTHER COUNTRIES, BOTH OF WHICH INCLUDE DEFINITIONS OF NATIONALITY.
HOWEVER, ASENA ANTICIPATED THAT ELEKDAG WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE
IN A POSITION TO GIVE A DEFINITE ANSWER DURING HIS VISIT, BECAUSE
THE GOT HAS YET TO DECIDE WHETHER IT WANTS A CONSULAR
CONVENTION WITH THE GDR.

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3. EXPLAINING THEGOT'S INTERNAL DEBATE, ASENA SAID THAT THE PRINCIPAL ARGUMENT FOR SUCH A CONVENTION IS THE PRESENCE OF 100,000 TURKISH WORKERS IN WEST BERLIN WHO COULD GET IN DIFFICULTIES WITH THE GDR EITHER IN TRANSIT TO AND FROM WEST BERLIN OR DURING VISITS TO GDR TERRITORY. ASENA OBSERVED THAT THE GDR CONCEIVABLY COULD PUT PRESSURE ON TURKEY BY ITS TREATMENT OF THOSE WORKERS. THE COUNTERVAILING CONSIDERATIONS ARE:

A. TWO RADIO STATIONS IN EAST GERMANY, "OUR RADIO" (BIZIM RADYO) AND "VOICE OF THE TURKISH COMMUNIST PARTY" (TURK KOMUNIST PARTISININ SESI), CARRY ON A CONTINUOUS PROGRAM OF SUBVERSIVE BROADCASTS IN TURKISH. "OUR RADIO" IS LOCATED IN EAST BERLIN AND BROADCASTS PRINCIPALLY TO TURKEY, WHILE THE OTHER (WHICH IS ONLY ABOUT ONE YEAR OLD) IS LOCATED PROBABLY IN LEIPZIG AND BROADCASTS ONLY TO WEST GERMANY, AIMING AT TURKISH WORKERS THERE. THEIR BROADCASTS, ASENA SAID, ATTACK ALL THE POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS AND PERSONALITIES OF TURKEY AND SEEK TO CREATE A CLIMATE OF OPINION WHICH IS "ANTI-GOVERNMENT AND ANTI-DEMOCRATIC". THE GOT HAS REPEATEDLY RAISED THIS SUBJECT WITH EAST GERMAN REPRESENTATIVES IN ANKARA, WHO HAVE CONSISTENTLY DENIED THAT THE BROADCASTING STATIONS ARE LOCATED IN GDR TERRITORY. AS A "CONFIDENTIAL EVALUATION", ASENA SAID HE EXPECTED THAT DURING ELEKDAG'S VISIT TO EAST BERLIN, GDR OFFICIALS WOULD CONTINUE UPHOLDING THE FICTION THAT THE RADIO STATIONS ARE NOT IN EAST GERMANY AND IN ANY EVENT WOULD TAKE NO RPT NOT ACTION TO STOP THE BROADCASTING. THE REASON, HE SAID, IS THAT THE QUESTION OF THE RADIO STATIONS IS "NOT UP TO THE EAST GERMANS TO DECIDE" BECAUSE THE GDR IS "ACTING FOR THE SOVIETS" IN THIS OPERATION.

B. THE TURKISH COMMUNIST PARTY, WHICH IS PROHIBITED IN TURKEY, IS BASED IN EAST GERMANY.
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